PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fran Hammond

Tis the day before Christmas, the tree is all decked, the presents wrapped, cards have been sent, the aroma of pumpkin pie in the air, cranberry jelly tucked in the frig and I at my computer to send you all greetings for a Merry Christmas and a Happy Healthy 2005.

I'm looking forward to the National Topical Stamp Show to be held in Milwaukee June 17 - 19 with pre and post activities. You can check Topical Time for all the details. It is a chance for you to get to know your fellow collectors and to meet and talk to the officers, directors and the people who help put ATA and the units together. The dealers are all TOPICAL dealers so a great opportunity to find those elusive stamps that you have been wanting to find, whether they are mint, used, on cover, proofs etc. The show would be a great place to show that exhibit you have been thinking about. I hope to see some of you there.

The dues notice was sent out with the last issue of Biophilately and we thank all those who have been so prompt in replying. Others please remit soon or if for some reason you are discontinuing a note would be appreciated.

I hope all of you that are making use of the web-site are finding it easy to use (dues notice is on there). There are thoughts of doing some color work on it, downloads would take longer. We are interested in your thoughts on the subject. We are sorry we can't offer any color in the hard copy, the expense is just too much.

My trip to Spain was a delight and I waited until the last possible moment for something to go wrong. As I was boarding the bus to go across the airport to the plane my knee crunched as I put all my weight on it. Ice packed all the way home and after x-rays, MRI etc. I am assigned to 2 more months with a cane or walker with a stress fracture just below the knee. No pain as long as I stay off of it. I should have lots of stamp time if Scott would only put out more numbers!! Not nearly the number of stamps (butterflies) coming out in new issues.

Happy mounting Fran

* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *